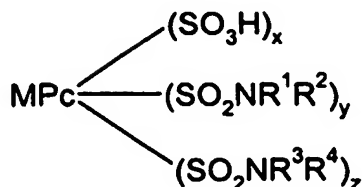


CLAIMS

1. A composition comprising:

(a) a major dye component which is a mixture of phthalocyanine dyes of Formula (1) and salts thereof:

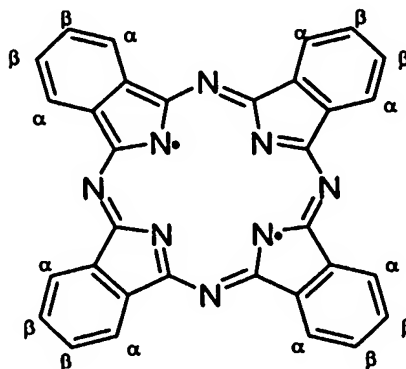


Formula (1)

wherein:

M is Cu or Ni;

Pc represents a phthalocyanine nucleus of formula



R^1 , R^2 and R^3 independently are H or optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^4 is optionally substituted C_{1-4} -hydroxyalkyl;

x is 0.1 to 3.8;

y is 0.1 to 3.8;

z is 0.1 to 3.8;

the sum of (x+y+z) is 4; and

the substituents, represented by x, y and z, are attached to a β position on the phthalocyanine ring; and

(b) a liquid medium which comprises water, water and an organic solvent or an organic solvent free from water.

2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 independently are H or methyl.

3. A composition according to either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R^4 is unsubstituted C_{1-4} -hydroxyalkyl.

4. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are all H and R^4 is $-CH_2CH_2OH$.

5. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein M is Cu.

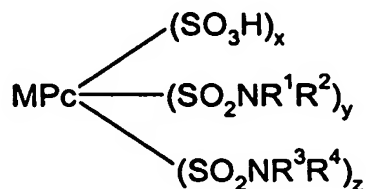
6. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein x is less than 1.

7. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein at least 70% by weight of the total amount of phthalocyanine dye in said composition is of Formula (1).

8. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims wherein at least 90% by weight of the total amount of phthalocyanine dye in said composition is of Formula (1).

9. A composition according to any one of the preceding claims which is an ink suitable for use in an ink-jet printer.

10. A mixture of dyes of Formula (2) and salts thereof:

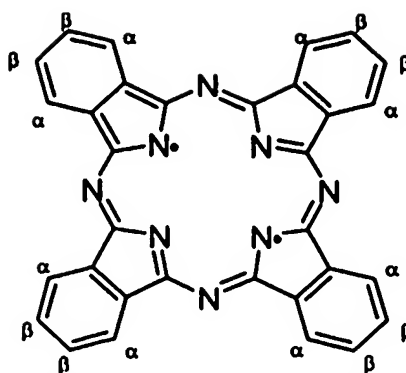


Formula (2)

wherein:

M is Cu or Ni;
Pc represents a phthalocyanine nucleus of formula

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R^1 , R^2 and R^3 independently are H or optionally substituted C_{1-4} alkyl;

R^4 is optionally substituted C_{1-4} -hydroxyalkyl;

x is 0.1 to 3.8;

y is 0.1 to 3.8;

z is 0.1 to 3.8;

the sum of $(x+y+z)$ is 4; and

the substituents, represented by x , y and z , are attached to a β position on the phthalocyanine ring.

11. A mixture of dyes according to claim 10 wherein R^1 , R^2 and R^3 are all H and R^4 is $-\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$.

12. A mixture of dyes according to either claim 10 or claim 11 wherein x is less than 1.

13. A process for forming an image on a substrate comprising applying an ink suitable for use in an ink-jet printer, as described in claim 9, thereto by means of an ink-jet printer.

14. A material printed with a composition according to any one of claims 1 to 9, dyes according to any one of claims 10 to 12 or by a process according to claim 13.

15. A material according to claim 14 which is a photograph printed using a process according to claim 13.

16. An ink-jet printer cartridge comprising a chamber and an ink wherein the ink is in the chamber and the ink is as defined in claim 9.